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CLASS Notes

September 30, 2011

Georgia Southern University

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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



September 30, 2011

Welcome to Georgia Southern University / College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Greetings!

One of the greatest rewards of an undergraduate education is the opportunity for students to work directly with a faculty member on a project that involves research, scholarship, and creativity. On Friday, Oct. 7, we will view the results of those shared opportunities at the fourth annual CLASS Undergraduate Research and Intellectual Opportunities (CURIO) Symposium, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Carroll Building. I invite you to join me for the evening as we enjoy papers, projects, posters, and performances by outstanding CLASS undergraduates.

The call for project proposals for CURIO goes out in the spring semester, so students have nine months to work with their chosen faculty member to accomplish their projects. Students who take part in this creative opportunity develop new skills, meet others with similar interests, and gain confidence in themselves and their academic abilities. I am always impressed by the variety of students' projects, the depth in which they address issues, and the outcomes of their efforts.

This year CLASS will have 50 students and 33 faculty mentors participating, numbers that have steadily increased since the program began in 2008. It's an evening that not only demonstrates the best of CLASS, but also demonstrates the timeless value of a liberal arts education. It's well worth your time, so I hope I'll see you there.

Finally, a reminder to CLASS alumni: We still want to hear about your honors, awards, promotions, and successes. Please use the [online alumni survey](#) form to send us your news, or send an email to class@georgiasouthern.edu. Your success is important to us.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael R. Smith'.

Michael R. Smith, Dean

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION ARTS

Faculty and students in the Department of Communication Arts continue to excel in a variety of venues, from the stage, to the football field, to Little Rock and Ireland and Italy.

Theatre:

More than 1,100 visitors are expected in Statesboro Oct. 12-15 to take part in the Georgia Theatre Conference, hosted by the Theatre program and Communication Arts. Under the direction of Professor Lisa Abbott, both Theatre students and Public Relations students taking the event management course will help manage the conference activities. The conference includes productions and panel presentations for high school students, college students, and youth as well as professional and community theatre representatives.



Tanya Tamnauth- The Listener



Christopher Hunt- The Crucible

The conference, "Southern Fried Theatre: Celebrating the Visions and Voices of Southern Artists," will highlight the work of Ossie Davis with a retrospective of his work. The Conference's keynote address will begin with a performance of area high school and GSU students in a Celebration of Ossie Davis's life followed by an address by Davis's son, Guy Davis.

Public Relations:

Our PRSSA chapter was one of 11 chapters nationwide selected to host a regional activity. Georgia Southern's spring event focused on PR &

social media, "PR Where U R," and featured Peter Shankman. It was supported by alumni: Jenny Lynn Anderson, Mark Baldwin, Julie Davis, Neillie Dunn, Alex Grovenstein, Don Rountree, Carrie

Thompson, Judy Graham Weaver and Tal Wright, among others.

Haley Higgs, alumna and former president of GSU's PRSSA chapter and coordinator of the spring conference was elected PRSSA National Vice President in charge of Regional Activities. She is currently in the MPA program at Georgia Southern.

Communication Studies:

Nine student research papers were competitively reviewed and accepted for presentation at the Theodore Clevinger Undergraduate Honors Conference of the Southern States Communication Association's annual meeting, held in Little Rock during spring term.

Multimedia Communication & Journalism:

This ifall, select Multimedia Communication majors are helping produce "Inside Georgia Southern Football with Jeff Monken." You can catch up on the game and our students through CW Network, Sports South and Channel 97 (GSU/Statesboro). The show will continue through the spring to include baseball and basketball under the direction of Professors. Tyson Davis and Susan De Bonis.

Other MMC students from Professor Kent Murray's Field Production and Editing class are getting experience behind the scenes at football games. They serve as the video production crew for coverage of home football games with their video signal going out live on GSU Athletics' Internet stream. Their signal is live on the scoreboard video monitor.

Other Departmental News:

Communication Arts classes have also crossed borders. Professor Jim Harbour taught students in Waterford, Ireland, as part of the Study Abroad Program. Dr. Pam Bourland-Davis will offer classes in Montepulciano, Italy, in the summer of 2012.

Cameron Rocker (Journalism, 2008) joined the department this year to cover Pre-Communication Arts Advising, providing more seamless advising throughout each student's academic career.

2011 Communication Arts Alumni of the year:

Mehmet Caglayan, Multimedia Communication
Neilie Dunn, Public Relations

Calendar of Forthcoming Communication Arts Events:

Oct. 12-15

Georgia Theatre Conference

Nov. 10-17

The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare and *Big Love* by Charles Mee
A Rotating Rep with a focus on gender and roles

March 1-7

Fuente Ovejuna by Lope DeVega

April 11-18

Joe Turner's Come and Gone by August Wilson

CLASS Department News

Foreign Languages

Professor José Manuel recently received notification from *La Corónica*, a leading journal in Spanish Medieval Studies, that his "El motivo literario y escatológico de la angostura vial en el *Libro de buen amor*" will be published in the Spring 2012 volume. He also published a volume of edited essays, *La pluma es lengua del alma: Ensayos en Honor de E. Michael Gerli*, dedicated to his dissertation director, who has had an incalculable influence on Spanish Medieval studies over the past 35 years. The list of contributors to the volume is the list of Who's Who in Spanish Medieval Studies. The book is published with Juan de la Cuesta, a peer-reviewed press that serves as a leader in the publication of scholarship and creative activity related to Spanish language/literature/culture. José Manuel's insightful article on "La tradición crítica de Liñán dentro del conceptismo de Luis Vélez de Guevara" is included in the volume.

Professor Olga Amarie served as co-editor and co-translator of *The Word: The ABC of the Young Creator*, an important work by the Romanian writer and public figure Ion Gaina. The work was published by University Press of the South, which specializes in the publication of foreign language-related scholarship.

Literature & Philosophy

Department Chair David Dudley received prestigious acknowledgment for his novel, *Caleb's Wars*, a work *Kirkus Reviews* calls "provocative and interesting." The full review appeared in the September 1 issue of *Kirkus Reviews*.

Writing & Linguistics

Professor Terry Welford's new book, *The Cento: A Collection of Collage Poems*, is the latest addition to the W&L display case. The edited collection was published this year by Red Hen Press. Reviewer X.J. Kennedy writes of the book, "The Cento reveals both the dangers of the form (creating chaos) and its rich rewards when performed with wit and creativity on the part of the poet. No one will supercede this achievement for a long time, I'd guess—maybe not for a hundred years."

Professor Margaret Sullivan successfully defended her dissertation in early September.

Alumni News

Submitted news

Lindsay Byrnside Tyson '04 is the assistant director of marketing and communications in the Office of Admissions at Georgia Southern University. She resides in Statesboro.

Cyril Durant '10 performed several roles at Opera in the Ozarks near Hot Springs, Arkansas, including Bartolo and Antonio in *Marriage of Figaro* and Gideon March and Dashwood in *Little Women*.

Mark Diamond '10 continues to wow audiences. He was Figaro in the San Francisco Opera Merola Program's production of *Bar-ber of Seville* and received rave reviews in the San Francisco Chronicle. He capped off the summer by winning first place in a voice competition in Seattle before settling in Houston to begin his year as a Young Artist with the Houston Grand Opera.

Jillian Pashke '10 participated in the Harrower Summer Opera Workshop in Atlanta

Trevor Martin '11 performed the father in *Hansel and Gretel* at the Brevard Music Center in

Brevard, North Carolina and participated in their summer young artist program. Martin has a knack for being in the right place at the right time. When he arrived in Houston a few weeks ago to begin graduate studies at the University of Houston, he was asked to step into their first production of the year as Ford in Verdi's opera *Falstaff*.

The 2011 Great Minds Lecture Series

F. Erik Brooks, Associate Professor of Political Science

"The Birth, Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Georgia Southern Football"

Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Downtown City Campus

Georgia Southern University is a powerhouse in the football championship series of college football, and its winning tradition is as strong as the old oak trees on Sweetheart Circle. The Georgia Southern football program has captured six championship titles, but this success did not come without a price. This lecture reveals a fascinating look at the history of the Georgia Southern football program from its humble beginnings to its ascension to a football program synonymous with championships and athletic excellence.

Reed Smith, Professor of Communication Arts

"Historic Episodes in Georgia Journalism"

Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m

Averitt Center for the Arts, Multi-Purpose Studio

This lecture will provide three different stories about Georgia journalism as it evolved during the twentieth century. One story is from 1904, and concerns the role newspapers played in the lynching era in the South (including the Statesboro incident); the second comes from the World War II era, and considers a controversy between state politics and Georgia Tech's commercial radio station in Atlanta. The third story profiles two men: one in TV, the other in newspapers, and how they had an impact on not just reflecting but establishing Savannah's unique personality.

Upcoming CLASS Events

Art

October 3-25

Exhibition: *Medium Anxiety*

Exhibition: *Studio-f: Monoprints from the University of Tampa*

Center for Art & Theatre

October 20

Empty Bowl Project: Chili Bowl Sale

11:00 am-2:00 pm

Ceramics Studio

Literature & Philosophy

October 4

Talks and Discussion: "The King James Bible at 400"

7:30-9:00 pm

Assembly Hall, Nessmith-Lane Center for Continuing Education

Lectures & Readings

October 7

Write Place: A Reading by Six Statesboro Area Authors

7:00 pm

Emma Kelly Theater, Averitt Center for the Arts

October 18

Great Minds Lecture

Erik Brooks: "The Birth, Death and Resurrection of Georgia Southern Football"

7:00 pm

Downtown City Campus, Classroom

October 25

Janisse Ray, author and environmentalist

Reading and craft talk

6:00pm

COBA Rm. 1124

Undergraduate Research

October 7

Center for Undergraduate Research and Intellectual Opportunities (CURIO) Symposium

6:30 pm

Carroll Building

Music

October 7

GSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony

7:30 pm

Performing Arts Center

October 9

GSU Jazz Band

3:00 pm

Performing Arts Center

October 27-29

Opera, *Pirates of Penzance*

7:30 pm

Performing Arts Center

[Complete Calendar of CLASS Events](#)

Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be nationally recognized for its superior and innovative educational experiences across the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. Our goal is to provide outstanding programs that are responsive to the needs of the region and to allow all members of the college—faculty, staff, and students—to serve together to enhance quality of life. If you would like to support CLASS in meeting these goals, please visit our [annual campaign website](#).

Find all the details about the [Eagle Nation on Parade](#) public art project on our [website](#). Contact Sue Bunning at sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu for more information.

Facebook

Stay connected by following our [CLASS Facebook page](#).

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